



**WATERVLIT DIECAST PLANT BURNS:** A heavy plume of black smoke towered over Rose Diecasting company, Watervliet, early this morning as fire of unknown origin damaged building extensively. Firemen said dark color of smoke was

due to flames being fed by cutting oil. Fire began about 6 a.m., was under control by mid-morning. Column of smoke was visible from Benton Harbor. Story and additional picture on front page, section 2. (Cliff Stevens photo)

## Berrien Double Disaster Area

*Federal Designation Includes 11 Counties  
In Eastern Section Of State*

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Congressman Edward Hutchinson (R-St. Joseph) announced Thursday that President Nixon has declared Berrien county and 11 other eastern Michigan counties as a disaster area because of a March 16 storm that caused severe lakefront flooding and damage.

Berrien already held a natural disaster designation for a Nov. 15, 1972 storm.

The federal declaration makes effected individuals in the designated areas eligible for tax breaks and for low interest loans that amount to free grants of the first \$5,000. Damage to public property becomes eligible for reimbursement.

The loans for private owners provide for the first \$5,000 to be forgiven. They are issued by the Small Business Administration.

Hutchinson said the White House informed him that federal disaster assistance relief from the President's disaster fund will consist primarily of debris clearance and repairs to roads, bridges, dikes, levees and irrigation and drainage facilities damaged by floodwaters.

Congress Hutchinson had asked that the President consider designating several of his district's counties as disaster areas earlier this month. State Sen. Charles Zollar (R-Benton Harbor) said Berrien was included as a March disaster area on a list to Washington from Gov. William Milliken at Zollar's insistence. The governor first listed 10 counties on the eastern side of the state, Sen. Zollar said.

Specialists from the President's Office of Emergency Preparedness region 5 office in Chicago have been in Berrien county working under assistant regional director Robert Connor—whose task will be to work with the state in providing federal disaster assistance to Berrien and 11 other Michigan counties designated disaster areas by the President.

The other counties included in the disaster area by President Nixon include Arenac, Bay, Huron, Iosco, Saginaw, Sanilac, St. Clair, Tuscola, Macomb, Monroe and Wayne.

Meanwhile, the public affairs

committee of the Twin Cities Association of Independent Agents said the federal government has approved federally-subsidized flood insurance coverage for St. Joseph last Monday, New Buffalo city Tuesday, and Michiana today.

Approval means residents

there can buy insurance against flooding through licensed insurance agents and agents stand ready to write it, according to Robert J. Molhoek, of TCAIA.

Already covered, the association said, are Benton Harbor, Bridgman, Chikaming

township, Grand Beach and Lincoln township.

Flood insurance costs 25 to 75 cents per \$100 coverage per year up to \$17,500 per one-family dwelling plus \$5,000 on contents.

Coverage for other residen-

(See back page, sec. 1, col. 8)



**VOLUNTEERS AT WORK:** South Haven high school students help city crews in filling 10,000 sandbags obtained from Army Corps of Engineers as city braces for expected flooding along Black river later in spring. City officials have estimated it will take 70,000 sandbags to protect area which includes city sewage disposal plant. Members of South Haven Jaycees have also volunteered to help in diking operation this weekend.

## \$385 Million

## State Tax Cut Nearer

LANSING, Mich. (AP) — With governor's aides hovering on the sidelines, the Senate approved a \$385 million tax cut for the next two years before heading for Easter vacation Thursday.

The measure, which is about \$15 million more than Gov. William Milliken proposed, would increase the personal income tax exemption from the current \$1,200 to \$1,500 next Jan. 1.

The broad and complicated tax package would grant tax breaks through 1975 of about \$310 million for individuals and

\$75 million for business, the governor's office said.

The Senate-passed measure has numerous changes from a package passed earlier in the House and is expected to go to conference committee when the legislature returns April 30.

The Senate reinstated income tax credits, a measure favored by Milliken but angrily opposed by Taxation Committee chairman Sen. Harry DeMaso, R-Battle Creek.

Milliken's "circuit-breaker" clause says that in cases where property taxes exceed 3.5 per cent of income, the state pays 60

per cent of the excess in the form of tax credits.

DeMaso wanted to replace the "circuit-breaker" with a formal tax schedule, giving more credit for property value than income. He claimed it would benefit more low and middle income families.

"Milliken's idea will give us a wobbly tax base and you can bet the income tax will go up in 1975—after the election. You bet he's running," DeMaso predicted about Milliken's undisclosed decision on seeking re-election in 1974.

Senate vote on the two-bill package came with lightning speed after less than a day's discussion. With rare exception, lawmakers voted in favor of the politically-popular tax cuts.

Milliken's aides huddled continuously with Senators on the floor to insure defeat of DeMaso's bill. While Glenn Allen, the governor's legislative liaison, conferred in low tones with Senate Republican leader Robert VanderLaan of Kentwood, Milliken's budget analyst Gerald Miller paced back and forth at the rear of the

chamber, counting votes.

The Senate voted 33-2 on the income tax chunk of the package and 33-1 on a bill to boost income tax credits on intangibles such as bank deposits and saving and loan shares from the current \$100 on single returns and \$200 on joint returns

(See back page, sec. 1, col. 1)

## Erosion Study Funds Pass 2 Major Hurdles

LANSING — The Michigan Senate and House on the same day, Thursday, passed a supplemental appropriations bill to study means to prevent lakefront erosion.

Much of the \$370,000 sum allotted to the department of natural resources is to be spent along the western shore of Michigan.

Private and governmental units in Berrien county were among some of the groups that appealed for the research effort. The Berrien board of commissioners asked that public property along Berrien's shoreline be included among

sites where such erosion control trials are established.

The \$370,000 was tacked on in the Senate to a bill that appropriated \$500,000 for use by State Police in emergency relief operations where serious flooding has occurred, principally along Michigan's eastern shores.

The amendment touched off some fireworks back in the House from some eastern Michigan legislators, but the vote was 64-34 in favor of the bill.

The bill is now on the desk of Governor Milliken for his action.

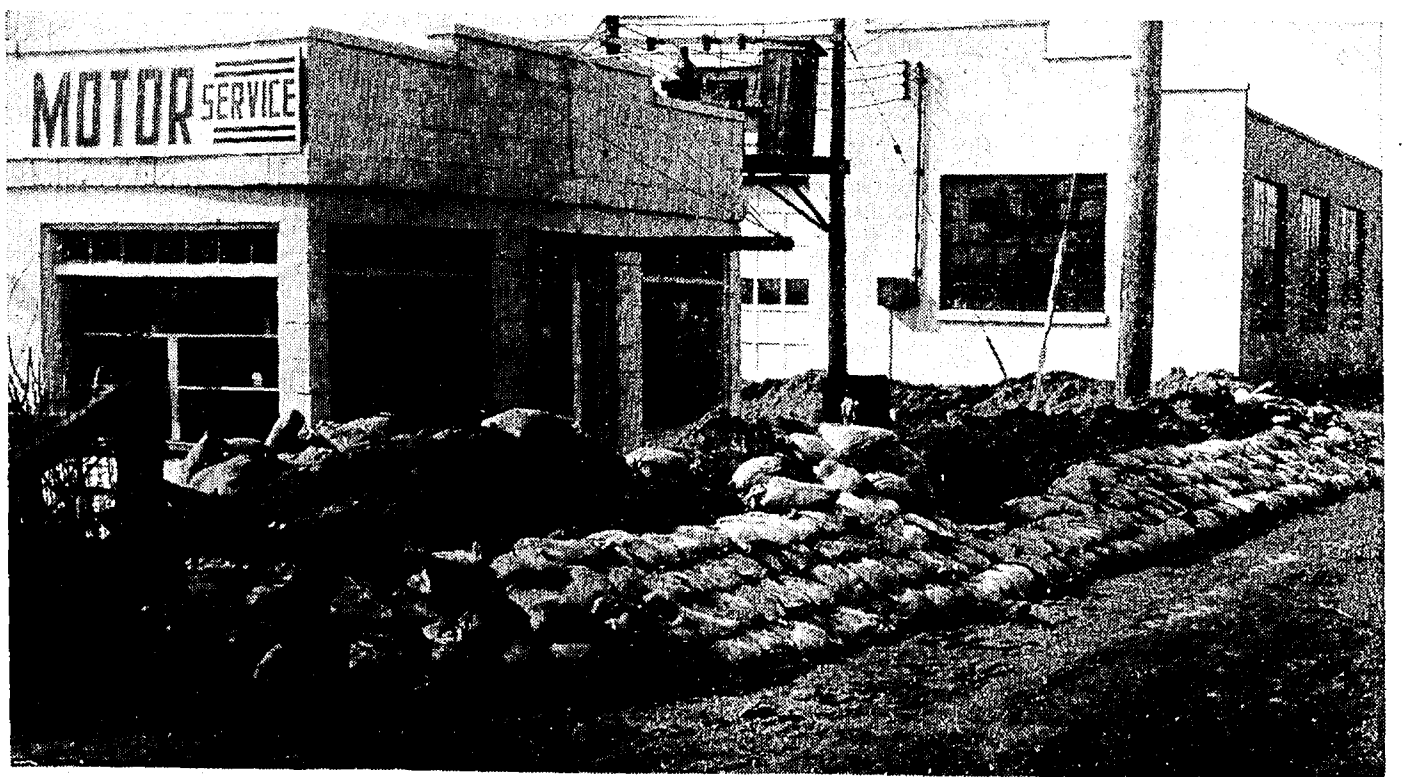
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**PROTECTIVE MEASURE:** Businesses and public property along the Black river in South Haven are being diked with sandbags in preparation on anticipated flood waters later this spring. Area received minor flooding earlier this week and water is expected to

rise another 12-14 inches through June. Four-foot high dike above protects Marty's Electric service on Dunkley avenue which runs along river bank. More pictures on front page, section 2. (Tom Renner photos)

# THE HERALD-PRESS

## Editorial Page

W. J. Banyon, Editor and Publisher  
Bert Lindenfeld, Managing Editor

### Congress Does A Double Take On Its Prerogatives

Most Congressmen are cheering the courts for blunting Nixon's efforts to liquidate some of the glaring financial disasters from their didos.

Last week a federal appeals court said the President could not impound a grant from the federal highway trust fund for mass transit purposes.

Two days ago a federal district judge in Philadelphia enjoined the OEO district administrator from cutting off the pipeline to that boondoggle. A district judge in Chicago refused a similar request by the OEO payrollers but on the circuitous reasoning that Nixon's revenue sharing budget will continue to pick up the OEO tab voted directly by Congress.

While it is bad constitutional practice for the executive branch to circumvent Congressional enactments, the issue today goes to the broader point that somebody in Washington must begin exercising some common sense before the country spends itself into oblivion.

Though applauding the judiciary for its preliminary boost to the theory that the White House has no business downgrading the other end of Pennsylvania Avenue, the House already has informed the courts that Congressional toes are equally immune to judicial treading.

It has sent to the Senate a bill to forbid the courts from hearing any

more complaints about Congressmen abusing their franking (free mailing) privilege.

Last fall the courts barred two Congressmen from mailing out postage free appeals for their candidacies.

All Congressmen regard the junk mail as an indispensable tool for reelection.

Present law bans what the courts last fall specifically ruled against, but the privilege is so loosely expressed in the statutory law that it is a wonder those judges decided to plug that particular loophole.

Just to make certain the judges can not tamper even to that extent the House bill would transfer to one of its committees the determination of whether a Congressman was overdoing the junk mail routine.

The frank is justified on the ground that a Congressman should be able to keep his constituents in touch with what's going on down along the Potomac.

This was a cheap fringe benefit years ago when a first class letter went through the mail for two cents.

It's still cheap to Congressmen. If they had to pay eight cents a copy for the drivel they mail out in computerized volume today, their salaries would be sent directly to the Postal Service.

### Strip Mining's Sorrowing Aftermath

By the time you finish reading this, another acre of America will have been chewed up by strip mines. According to the Environmental Protection Agency, coal strippers gnaw their way through 4,680 acres a week. That comes to more than 668 acres per day or about 27 acres an hour, a little less than an acre every two minutes.

The strippers leave a moonscape that is difficult to describe. It would be a good place to stage a film about the end of the world. Strip mining, according to Ken Hechler, who should know, is "cancer of the earth, a pathology deriving from lust for energy at the cheapest monetary cost regardless of the social cost."

### Noisy Anti-Noise

Typically American, perhaps, is a solution to the noise problem going the rounds in acoustical circles. It's called acoustical performing, which means covering one noise with another.

The idea, not really new, is that instead of trying to decimate the decibels, more should be piled on by piping music into offices, restaurants and apartments. It's an idea made to order for the teenager rationalizing study alongside a going radio and the theorist who claims this heightens concentration.

It also plays into the hands of the fellow who turns up the volume convinced that if a little music softens the clatter a lot makes perfect silence.

Thus quiet as once defined an absence of sound is getting ever more out of date. The next step, and it's already here in many places, is to turn a louder TV against a roaring dishwasher, one auto honk against another, or one noisemaker of any kind against another.

### The Truth Came Marching Home



Bruce Biossat

'76? Not Proper

Topic Right Now



WASHINGTON (NEA) — When you tap politicians from many places in both parties these days, you quickly discover they aren't eager to talk much about the 1976 presidential race. They seem to sense that the American voter wants a respite from constant political clamor.

People got the idea, and they weren't far wrong, that there was almost no break between the 1968 and 1972 campaigns.

Almost exactly four years ago, in mid-April 1969, a sizable bunch of us political reporters went tramping after Sen. Edward Kennedy on a 4,000-mile, three-day swing through Alaska. The announced purpose was a Senate subcommittee inquiry into Eskimo and Indian poverty, but the real thing was, it was Kennedy's first major public outing since the assassination of his brother Robert the previous June.

The trip was one of the funniest adventures in recent political history, and yielded up a considerable tonnage of "Kennedy color." Later we trailed him to the South, to some eastern college campuses and other spots, all in the name of gauging him for the 1972 nomination.

Meantime, Sen. Edward Muskie for 1969's first six months dutifully pounded the Democratic banquet circuit, trying to capitalize on his popularity as Hubert Humphrey's 1968 running mate. It did him little good, and he declared at mid-year he was bowing out to Kennedy.

Then, in late July, came the tragedy on the bridge at Chappaquiddick, which took Kennedy out and brought Muskie back in. Thereafter, things just went on and on.

It isn't like that this time.

Kennedy will have some people traipsing after him when he goes to see Alabama's Gov. George Wallace July 4, but we won't need a 747 to carry the entourage. The word meantime is to lie low.

Sen. Walter Mondale of Minnesota, one of the regular mentionables for 1976, is keeping quietly active. Friends of Sen. Henry Jackson of Washington say he's serious about another try, but they're just about the only ones discussing it.

On the Republican side, the steady political bloodhounds have all written their "whither Agnew" and "whither Connally" pieces, and there really isn't anything more to say until one of them does something visible and decisive. The only twist has been a little early surprise interest in the venerable vigorous Gov. Nelson Rockefeller.

It isn't only the boredom of the electorate that's holding things back. In 1974, big governorships are at stake in Massachusetts, New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Michigan and California. Nobody wants today to anger some needed party faction by plumping for a presidential candidate who may turn out to be decisive. That job is on the line this year in New Jersey, and those fellows never heard of the presidency.

The Republicans have a little added problem — the Watergate bugging case and assorted other 1972 shenanigans aimed at the Democrats. The new GOP national chairman, George Bush, finds that his main press conference question whenever he goes, and road-company newsmen never lay off it.

### GLANCING BACKWARDS

#### SJ LIONS PICK OFFICERS

— 1 Year Ago —

Dr. James E. Grandy will be installed as the 45th president of St. Joseph Lions club later this Spring after his election this week.

Dr. Grandy, a chiropractor with offices at 731 St. Joseph drive, St. Joseph, succeeds Robert Dearing, Jr. Others elected are Dale Jeffers, first vice president; Robert Mackay, second vice president; Roy J. Liskey, third vice president; Steve Barbus, secretary; John Wood, treasurer; Richard Kasmer, third twister; Frank Spitters, lion tamer and Richard Kettelhut and Gene Robinson, directors.

#### WESTERN UNION OFFICE TO CLOSE?

— 10 Years Ago —

The Western Union has filed an application with the Federal Communications Commission to discontinue its St. Joseph office at 513 Ship street and to furnish a "pony service" through a pre-set system at the Whitcomb hotel.

The pre-set method has been available at the hotel for some time as an after-hours service when the Ship street office is closed. Under the Western Union proposal, delivery service from the Whitcomb pre-set station would follow the same hours as those observed in the Benton Harbor office.

#### DOUBLE BLOW AT NAZI PLANTS

— 29 Years Ago —

Striking from both Britain and Italy, American heavy bombers by the hundreds pounded aircraft and ball bearing factories in four German cities and plunged more explosives into Hungary after the British by night had jarred its capital of Budapest with two-ton blockbusters.

German targets were the bearings works of Schweinfurt, aerial installations at Lechfeld and aircraft plants at Augsburg and Oberpfaffenhofen.

#### CASH PRIZES

— 39 Years Ago —

Prizes totalling \$500 will be awarded in the comic parade, popular feature of the Blossom Festival. Herbert C. Kerlikowske is chairman of the Knights of the Blossom, in charge of the fun night event.

#### OPENING VICTORY

— 49 Years Ago —

The high school track team opened its 1924 season with a victory over the strong Niles team. Norman Dutt, star dash man, Ed Heiden, pole vaulter and high jump expert, and Arnold Karsten, big weight man, were stars for the Maize and Blue.

#### AXE FALLS

— 59 Years Ago —

The official axe fell and there were two less saloons in St. Joseph. Two Ship street dealers were cut off. The city council talked of raising license fees to get the number of applications down to the required 11. Benton Harbor has 18 and will keep 18, but other cities in the state are cutting down.

#### FENCE STREET

— 83 Years Ago —

Fences have been placed across Wayne street at the foot and top of the hill to protect unwary travelers who are unacquainted with the treacherous condition of the ground.

### THE FAMILY LAWYER



Barbed-wire fences may be harder to climb, and wooden fences harder to see through. But for sheer versatility, nothing beats the invisible fence erected around every piece of property by the laws of trespass and nuisance. Consider an example:

The Benson family lived next door to a vacant lot on which the owner kept a large pile of sand. Whenever the wind blew from that direction, sand would seep through the doors and windows of the Benson house.

Finally Benson sued the neighbor on grounds of nuisance. In court, the neighbor argued that he could not be blamed for what the wind did. But the court held it was unlawful — a breach of the invisible fence — for him to allow his sand to invade the Benson premises.

Other courts have taken a similar attitude toward leaves dropped from an overhanging tree, vines spreading into a lawn, eaves jutting over a boundary line (by a matter of inches), and sound waves from a neighbor's howling dog.

And, of course, the invisible fence also bars anyone from walking across your property without permission.

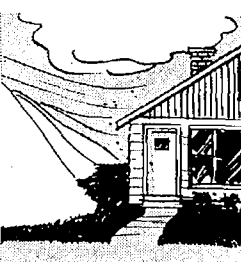
How high does the fence extend? Courts used to say it extended all the way up to heaven — a theory that, if enforced literally, would make every airplane flying overhead a trespasser.

Nowadays, your invisible fence extends only to a "reasonable" height. But still, your protection goes higher than the average housestop.

In one case a telephone company strung a wire 30 feet above a man's back yard, contending it was using only the "free and open" air. However, a court ordered the wire removed, since space that close to the ground might well be used someday by the owner himself.

"The space occupied by the wire," said the court, "was a part of his land. The law protects it from hostile occupation."

A public service feature of the American Bar Association and the State Bar of Michigan. Written by Will Bernard.



### EDITOR'S MAILBAG

#### WANTS TO DUMP GRAVY-TRAIN DRAGONS

I think it's a crying shame that Gov. Milliken's budget director didn't assign Miss Glenda McGuire and her project "to see how people view government" to interview people of the poor and middle income working classes who are being subjected to the tax rape of the century. I'm sure it wouldn't have taken her anywhere near six months to draw an honest conclusion that could be summarized in one brief condensed sentence — utter disgust and contempt.

We are indeed fortunate to have someone with such astute decision-making capabilities as our state budget director. It certainly helps clear up the mystery as to why the millions of tax dollars that pour into the state treasury at Lansing every day of the week are just not enough to go around.

We taxpayers better wise up soon and go to the polls and dump these liberalistic, gravy-train dragons out of office, including His Honor the Governor.

Oscar Kort  
Route 1  
Coloma

BOGUS BILLS FOUND  
LEIDEN, Netherlands (AP) — Six million counterfeit U.S. dollars, freshly printed and neatly wrapped, have been discovered in a small printing shop in a suburb of this Dutch town, police report.

Marianne Means

Nader Forgets

His Own Dictum



WASHINGTON (KFS) — A former college chum of Ralph Nader spotted the famous consumer advocate walking in the city and offered him a lift.

The pair rode six blocks before the driver realized Nader had not fastened his seat belt. Amused, he gave Nader a mock lecture on auto passenger safety precautions.

Nader failed to see the humor and sat unbelted in grumpy silence the rest of the ride.

More than any other individual, Nader was responsible for the setting of Federal standards that have made automobile seat belts mandatory.

Nader's little lapse of purpose brings to mind an old saying that the person who makes the law is above it. Nader's image as a good guy is so secure he can survive such incidents. But not all public figures can.

The sweeping cynicism reflected in that adage contains sufficient truth to help explain

the widespread lack of confidence citizens display in the leaders of government and other public-policy institutions. And there have been a number of examples recently of the tendency of big folks to apply one standard to themselves and another to lesser folks.

For example, the U.S. Judicial Conference, which is chaired by Supreme Court Chief Justice Warren Burger, has just issued a tough new code of ethics for Federal judges. It sets mandatory standards of conduct in their professional lives and to a considerable extent in their private lives as well.

But the conference has no authority over the Supreme Court. In the past, some regulations of the conference have been voluntarily complied with by Supreme Court Justices, such as filing publicly their memberships in outside organizations.

While lesser justices are required to meet the new standards of propriety, Supreme Court Justices are free to oblige only if they feel like it.

And Congress, which claims to agree with President Nixon about holding down Federal budget costs, seems inclined to make an exception where its own pocketbook is concerned. A House bill is pending to extend the franking privilege under which letters are mailed free to include business currently interpreted as campaign activity.

And key Democratic members of the House Post Office and Civil Service Committee have quietly sponsored legislation to speed up procedures under which Congressional salaries could be increased this year instead of next year, which is election season. Congressional salaries, which are now \$42,500, were last increased in 1969.

#### WINS FIRST VOTE

PARIS (AP) — Premier Pierre Messmer's new government won its first parliamentary vote of confidence Thursday night by a narrow margin of 23 votes over the required majority of 231.

### BERRY'S WORLD



"Close the window. Dinner's getting dirty!"

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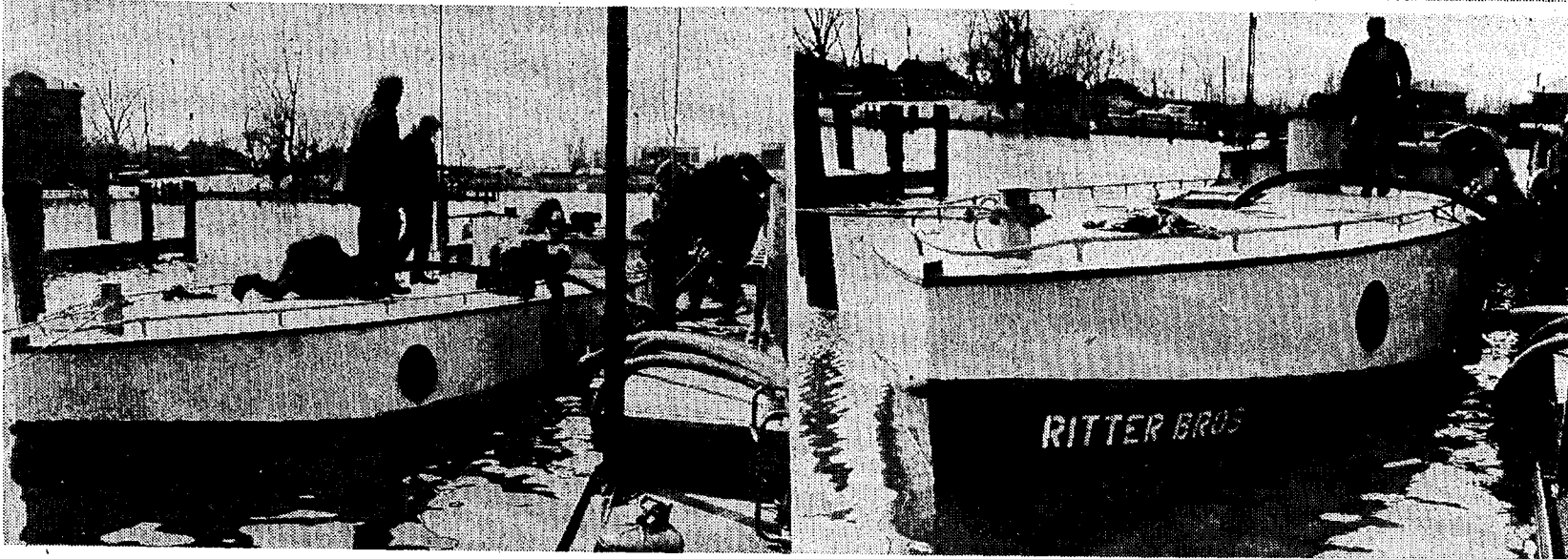
## Airline Head Tax Will Begin May 1

Twin Cities Airport board Thursday ordered the printing of airline boarding tickets which will be sold to passengers as a \$1 head tax. Edward Weisbruch, Ross field manager, said the charge is expected to take effect about May 1.

The fee will be assessed all passengers leaving Ross field on North Central flights. The money will be used to offset the \$456 weekly expense of posting armed, uniformed Benton Township police officers at the boarding gate as part of a Federal Aviation agency anti-hijack

regulation.

All the details of the new charge have not been worked out but it is expected the fee will be collected at the time passengers buy their tickets.



**1,500 GALLONS OF WATER PER MINUTE:** With five pumps taking out approximately 1,500 gallons of water per minute, St. Joseph firemen, public works department and Conservation officers were able to refloat fish tug, "Ritter Bros." found at the

bottom of the St. Joseph marina Wednesday morning. Investigation showed drain plug to motor cooling system had been removed. Wrench was lying nearby. Pumping started around 11 a.m. but it was not until fire truck pumped approximately 850

gallons per minute was added around 3 p.m. before any headway was made in pumping out the boat. Tug was confiscated by Conservation department after Michigan City, Ind. fishermen were found in Michigan waters. (Staff photo)

## Sloped Curbs Will Help Handicapped

### SJ Man Leads Push For New Michigan Law

BY JACOB SHUBINSKI  
Staff Writer

Handicapped persons in wheelchairs will find sloped curbs at newly-constructed intersections to help them move about more easily thanks to a bill signed into law Thursday by Gov. William Milliken.

While the new law provides curb cuts at newly-constructed intersections on both private and government property only, the City of St. Joseph has already approved the plan to aid handicapped persons in the downtown shopping area.

According to City Manager Leland Hill, a total of 16 curb cuts will be made at four intersections on State street at Ship, Pleasant, Broad and Elm streets.

Director of Public Works Jerry Hepler said that construction of cuts will not start until after the Blossomland Parade on May 5.

City Engineer Bob Barnes said that estimated cost per cut is \$150 and that plans for the first intersection cut shows a slope of about one inch per foot.

"We will do one cut on more or less an experimental basis and see how the inch slope works out before we do any others," said Barnes.

The project in St. Joseph was first proposed by City Commissioner Joseph Hanley and approved at the Feb. 13 commission meeting when a group of handicapped persons appeared at the meeting to urge the adoption of the plan.

The group was headed by Tom Harrsen, 1320 Niles avenue, St. Joseph, past president of the Blossomland Chapter of Physically Handicapped and current third vice president, National Assn. of Physically Handicapped, Michigan area.

Harrsen attended yesterday's bill signing in Lansing where Milliken called the new



TOM HARRSEN  
SJ Man Leads Drive

comprehensive in the nation." Michigan is the first state to pass such a measure.

"We've only been working on this since last September and are very happy that the house and senate acted so quickly," said Harrsen.

Measure to aid movement of the handicapped "the most

## Ramparts Operating In City

# SJ Ambulance Action Challenged

BY SCOTT WILLIAMSON

A test case involving Rampart Ambulance service vs. the City of St. Joseph may be developing to question the constitutionality of Rampart's not being allowed to pick up patients within the city limits.

St. Joseph City Atty. A.G. Preston Jr. in late March sent a letter to Rampart, informing them after they had made one run into St. Joseph that if they

did so again it would lead to the arrest of their personnel.

An owner of Rampart, Dennis Leavitt, said Rampart responded with a letter informing the city that if the company had occasion to respond to a call in St. Joseph, they would again do so. Rampart is based in Benton township.

Two ambulance licenses have been issued in St. Joseph, both to Action Ambulance Co. of

Benton Harbor. The St. Joseph city commission on Feb. 26 approved the Action licenses, but turned down similar requests from Rampart. Copies of the correspondence between Rampart and the City of St. Joseph were given to this newspaper by Leavitt.

The initial letter, from Atty. Preston, reads:

"As attorney for the City of St. Joseph, I am advised that on

March 19, 1973, your company picked up a patient in St. Joseph and transported her to Memorial hospital. I am sure that you are aware that you are not licensed to make such pickups in the City of St. Joseph, and I have been instructed to advise you that any further such pickups will lead to arrest of your personnel. Very truly yours, A.G. Preston, Jr."

4, reads:

"This is to acknowledge receipt of your letter of March 21, 1973, informing us of your intentions in the event Rampart responds to an emergency ambulance call within the corporate limits of the city of St. Joseph, Mich. "If there should be an occasion for us to respond to an emergency ambulance call in St. Joseph, Mich., we will notify your police department in

the same manner that we gave notification on our first response March 19, 1973, to an emergency ambulance call. Respectfully, James R. Geigle, Rampart Emergency Ambulance Service, Inc."

Preston this morning was asked if Rampart employees would be arrested if they made a run into St. Joseph. He replied: "Any comment at this time is premature."

## South St. Joseph Motorists

# Leave Early To Avoid Jam!

Go early and avoid the rush.

This, in essence, is the advice of St. Joseph Chief of Police Tom Gillespie to people who travel north on Lake Shore drive on their way to work in the twin cities area in the mornings.

A traffic slowdown has developed at the intersection of Lake Shore drive and Hawthorne avenue three times a day, but the

worst is between 7:30 and 8 a.m., according to Gillespie.

An officer has been stationed at the intersection for the last two mornings to aid southbound traffic turn left on to Hawthorne avenue and has resulted in a slowdown of northbound traffic.

Gillespie said that he traveled the route this morning to time the delay in getting from Glenford road past Hawthorne. "It usually takes about three minutes, but this morning it took 10," said Gillespie who added that an officer will probably be stationed at the intersection during the morning, at 3 p.m. and 5

p.m. "for the rest of the summer."

The Lake Shore drive traffic has been delayed because of construction that has closed Cleveland avenue to through traffic. The only route for persons working in the St. Joseph Industrial District on Hawthorne avenue is now south on Lake Shore drive.

At the present time, a sanitary sewer is being laid down Cleveland. Then in May, Cleveland avenue will be closed again when a storm sewer is laid under the road after which the road will be paved.

## Schalon Promoted

### By St. Joe Bank

Frederick A. Schalon has been named assistant vice president of the Peoples State Bank of St. Joseph, President John S. Stubblefield announced today.



FREDERICK A. SCHALON  
Assistant Vice President

Schalon, 55, has been manager of the Scottsdale branch of Peoples State and an assistant cashier of the bank.

He joined the Peoples State Bank in February, 1954, and was appointed assistant cashier in January, 1966. Before being named manager of the Scottsdale branch in December of 1971, he was manager of the installment loan department.

He is a graduate of the School of Banking at the University of Michigan and also graduated from the American Institute of Banking and the Consumer Banking school of the American Banking association.

A lifelong resident of St. Joseph, he is a 1936 graduate of St. Joseph High school. He and his wife, the former Martha Hemming of St. Joseph, have five children. They live at 2444 Washington avenue, St. Joseph.

Schalon is an elder of Christ Lutheran church, and a member of the Twin Cities Area Chamber of Commerce and the Economic Club of Southwestern Michigan.

## Postal Patrons Urged To Protest

Lee Nower, president of letter carriers local 653, has urged St. Joseph residents to petition their U.S. senators and congressman in an attempt to prevent transfer of personnel from the St. Joseph post office to Benton Harbor.

Nower suggests a block-by-block petition campaign and also personal letters to the senators and congressmen. He said he was making the suggestions because "many of you have been asking what you could do to help in our fight to keep all personnel in the St. Joe post office."

A directory of the senators and congressman is on page 10 of today's newspaper.

The St. Joseph city commission Monday authorized a letter of

protest to Congressman Edward Hutchinson.

Loren C. Glover, mail processing representative for the Postal Service's Grand Rapids district, confirmed last week that 39 of 52 St. Joseph postal employees would be transferred to Benton Harbor within 45 to 60 days.

The shift involves all letter carriers and all rolling stock of the St. Joseph office.

Glover said the transfer would improve St. Joseph postal service. The St. Joseph office was described as overcrowded.

Nower countered on behalf of the letter carriers by saying that the shift would slow mail delivery in St. Joseph as much as two days.

## Got Odd Jobs To Be Done?-- Call A St. Joe Bandsman

Annual St. Joseph High school band work day is scheduled for Saturday, April 21 and the jobs bandsmen will perform are limited only by their employers' imagination.

Calls to reserve a bandsman may be made to Mrs. Bruce Karnes (983-2029) or Mrs. William Montgomery (983-5782).

Band members, both junior and senior high school, will

wash cars, windows, walls or youngsters. They will do yard work, rake leaves, spade gardens, put up screens, take down storm windows, fix fences, polish silver, clean attics, basements or garages, babysit youngsters, or other domestic chores.

Funds earned will be used for uniforms, music, instruments and scholarships.

In case of rain the work will be done on April 28.

## BH Students Plan Car Wash

The junior class of Benton Harbor high school will sponsor a car wash at three locations Saturday to raise money for the junior-senior prom.

The locations will be manned by class members from 10 a.m.-4 p.m., with a \$1 donation requested. Tickets may be obtained in advance from class members.

Sites for the car washes will be Fairplain Sunoco, Colfax and Napier avenues; Phillips "66" in Fairplain Plaza; and Johnson's Citgo, at Colfax and Empire avenues.

## St. Joe Optometrist Heads State Chapter

Dr. Robert H. Ticknor, 1121 Kingsley avenue, St. Joseph, was elected president of the American Academy of Optometry, Michigan chapter, this week at Michigan State university.

It was the second time Dr. Ticknor has been elected to this position, having been so honored in 1950-51. Term of office is for two years.

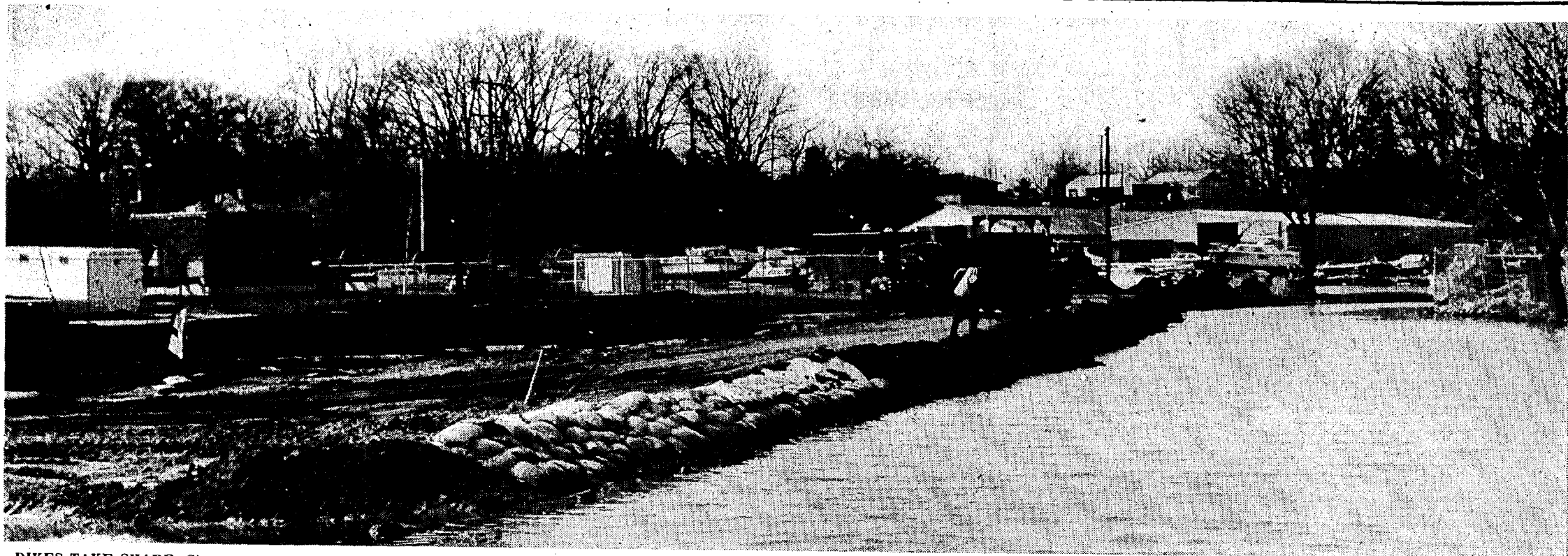
Dr. Ticknor practices optometry with his brother, George, at 314 1/2 State street, St. Joseph.

Other officers elected at the meeting at Michigan State include Dr. Robert Hass, Owosso, vice-president; and Dr. E. E. Miller, Alpena, secretary-treasurer.

Dr. Ticknor also served as president of the Michigan Optometric Association in 1955. He is a member of the Southwest Michigan Society of Optome-



DR. ROBERT TICKNOR



**DIKES TAKE SHAPE:** City crews and volunteers started construction of protective dikes at South Haven yesterday in effort to protect low lying areas

from expected flooding from Black river this spring. Using materials from Army Corps of Engineers under its "Operation Foresight" program,

city hopes to place 70,000 sandbags in area to protect businesses, residences and city's sewage disposal plant. Dikes consist of about four feet of clay fortified by sandbags. (Tom Renner photos)

## Rose Diecasting Damaged

# Big Blaze In Watervliet

BY CURT BARTON  
Staff Writer

**WATERVLIET** — An early morning fire of undetermined origin today extensively damaged the Rose Diecasting company, Pleasant street, Watervliet.

Firemen from Watervliet, Coloma, Covert and Sister Lakes fought the blaze, which eyewitnesses said gutted about

half of the approximately 100 by 200 foot building. No one was reported injured.

Fire, reported at about 5:45 a.m., was subdued by mid-morning. Firemen were still on the scene, wetting down the ruins, at late morning.

Reportedly no one was working in the section of building where flames broke out. The fire was concentrated in an

older, wooden frame part of the building. It was uncertain whether workmen were in other parts of the plant.

A tall column of dense black smoke, visible as far as the outskirts of Benton Harbor, towered above the Rose plant at the height of the fire. Firemen attributed the density and color of the smoke to flames being fed by cutting oil.

No estimate of the value of the loss was available this morning, but George Rose, company owner, said he was confident the damage would be covered by insurance.

Rose said fire destroyed a tool room and what he called a secondary building housing machinery such as boring mills. Also destroyed, he said, were three lift trucks and a quantity

of material awaiting shipping.

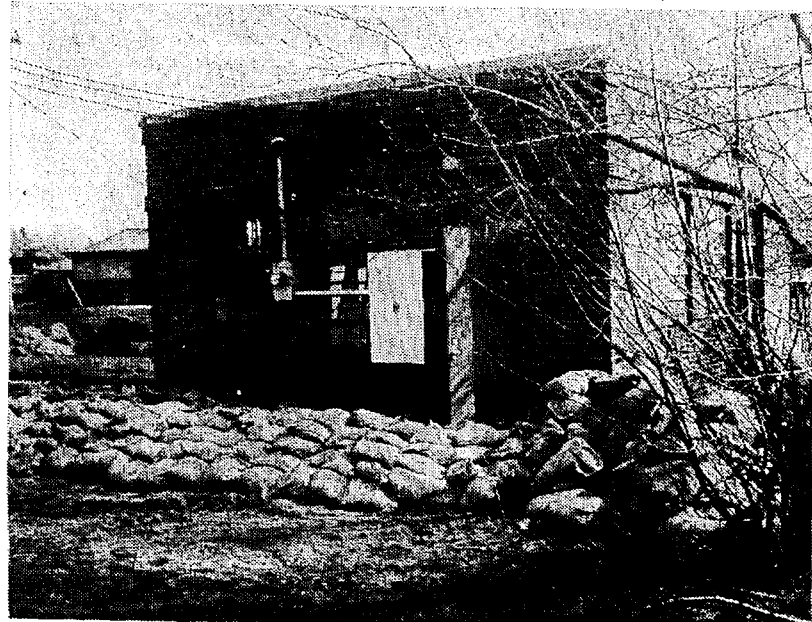
He said Friday is the plant's regular shipping day.

Rose said the fire was stopped before spreading to an area housing more than \$1 million of equipment.

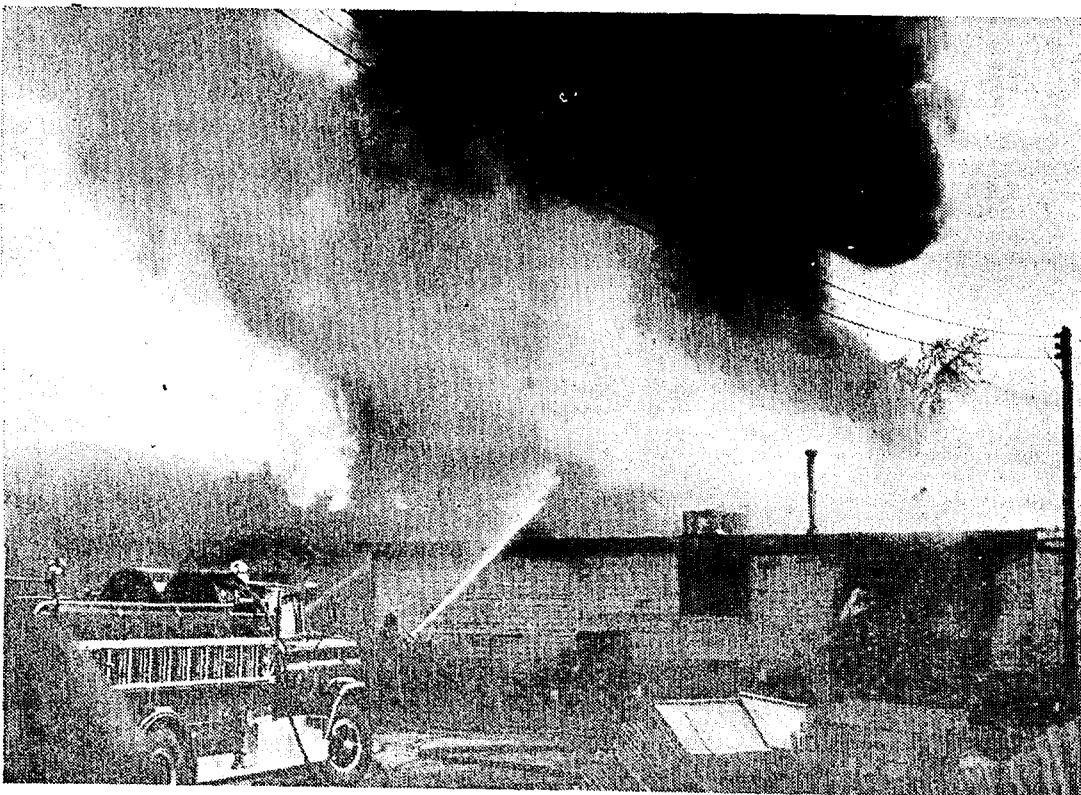
According to eyewitnesses, 11 firefighting trucks were at the scene of the fire. Three hydrants were employed by firemen hosing the flames, but the Sister Lakes department was asked to bring in its 6,000 gallon tanker when the heavy demand for water reportedly taxed Watervliet's well-fed water system.

About 50 people are employed at Rose, according to firemen.

No word was available this morning on what steps the company will take to continue operations.



**DIKE PROTECTS PUMP HOUSE:** Construction of dikes in South Haven focused on protection of sewage treatment plant and city street department garages. Above, sewage lift station along Black river near Dunkley avenue is partially sandbagged. Volunteers are helping city crews place an estimated 70,000 sandbags needed to hold back river, which forecasts say will rise additional 12 to 14 inches by June.



**FIREMEN BATTLE BLAZE:** Watervliet firemen were joined by members of three other departments in fighting flames which extensively damaged Rose Diecasting company at dawn today. Eyewitnesses estimate half of about 100 by 200 foot building was

involved in fire. No estimate of loss was available, but owner said damage would be covered by insurance. Company is said to employ 50. (Cliff Stevens photo)

## Township Lawrence To Name Building Inspector

**WATERVLIET** — Watervliet township board members will hold a special meeting, Tuesday, April 17, at 4 p.m. to act on naming a building inspector and to consider minimum standards for tap-ins to the township sewer collection line.

Meeting informally last night, township board members interviewed two applicants for the building inspectors position.

Present township building inspector Harry Smith will be interviewed, as will one other applicant, regarding the position prior to Tuesday's special meeting, officials indicated.

During last night's meeting, board members agreed on combining the present building inspector's duties with inspecting sewer tap-ins to the newly-installed township sewage collection system.

Board members agreed that building permits should be available at the township hall and no longer issued at the home of the building inspector.

Present township building permit fees of \$5 for the first \$1,000, and \$2 per additional \$1,000 value will remain unchanged, according to Supervisor Lyle Woodworth.

However, Woodworth indicated that the present \$10 to \$12 fee for removing a demolished or burned residence from the tax roll is to be reduced to a \$5 minimum charge.

## Lawrence To Vote On 3-Mill Tax

**LAWRENCE** — A three-mill property tax request for school operations will be put before Lawrence school district voters June 11, the Lawrence school board decided last night.

The proposed levy will replace a three-mill levy that expires this year and will extend three years if approved.

Approval of the request would continue the district's total millage for schools at 28.18, if the county allocation board again allocates 8.68 mills to the district.

The three mills would produce an estimated \$30,000 next year.

Election of two board members is also slated for the June 11 balloting. Board members whose terms expire this year are Lester Hagberg and Horace Hutchins.

It was reported last night that nominating petitions for board positions will be available in the school superintendent's office. They must be returned no later than 4 p.m. May 14.

Last day for unregistered

voters to register for the school election is May 11.

In other areas, the board approved a tentative 1973-74 budget of \$713,560 for submission to the county allocation board for use in determining how much allocated millage the district will receive.

Actual operating budget for the present year is \$720,385. The senior class was granted permission to take a day trip to Cedar Point park, Sandusky, Ohio, June 4. The trip reportedly is to be financed by the students.

## Sewage Plant Will Begin Work Soon

**COLOMA** — Paw Paw Lake sewage operating board members learned last night that the \$2.6 million sewage treatment plant will begin partial operation June 15.

Carr Baldwin, chief engineer of the board's engineering firm, Ayres, Lewis, Norris and May, reported that beginning in mid-June the cities of Coloma and Watervliet will be able to begin using the new treatment plant.

Both Coloma and Watervliet township residents are expected to begin hooking into their connection lines after July 1, according to Baldwin.

The treatment plant is part of

the \$12 million Paw Paw Lake sewage system serving the cities and townships of Coloma and Watervliet.

Operating Board President John Steele said the plant is expected to be fully operational by late September.

Board members authorized Roger Rousse, treatment plant superintendent, to begin advertising for office equipment for the plant including a typewriter and calculator.

Rousse informed board members that 20 applicants have been received for four positions in the treatment plant

and plans are being made to set a date for a job qualification test.

## Giant Ore Ship

**DETROIT (AP)** — The 1,000-foot-long Stewart J. Cort, the largest ship on the Great Lakes, passed Detroit today enroute to Taconite Harbor, Minn., after leaving its winter berth at Erie, Pa., Friday. The ship is starting its second season of carrying iron ore between Taconite Harbor in Lake Superior and Burns Harbor, Ind., at the southern end of Lake Michigan.

## Berrien Springs To Vote Third Time On Bond Issue

**BERRIEN SPRINGS** — A school building bond issue, probably for \$2.4 million, was slated for voter action at the June 11 school elections by the Berrien Springs school board last night. The board ordered an issue placed on the ballot, but left determination of the exact amount for later.

Under consideration is a \$2.4 million plan covering construction of a new junior high school.

District voters have twice in the past five years rejected bonding propositions for financing the construction.

Tentative board plans call for a new junior high with some 80,000 square feet of floor space.

According to Supt. Lee Auble, recent estimates for remodeling the existing 40-year-old structure have run close to

\$500,000. This would not include any expansion of the 65,000 square foot building, he said. Also set for the June 11 balloting is election of one member to the school board. Expiring is the term of James Betschek.

In other action, the board approved a tentative schedule for the 1973-74 school year calling for 182 student days, two more than in the present year. Under the schedule, school would start Sept. 4 and end June 6, 1974.

A tentative budget for the next school year of \$1,749,950 was approved for submission to the Berrien county tax allocation board. The budget will be used in figuring what share of 15 mills levied by the county will go to the school district.

This year's actual operating budget is \$1,670,449.